

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are pending in the application. Claims 7 and 8 are newly added and are believed allowable for at least the same reasons noted below.

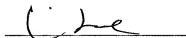
Claims 1-6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0039944 to Ali ("Ali"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection as follows.

Ali does not teach or suggest all of the elements of independent claim 1. For instance, Ali does not teach or suggest a tensioner comprising a mobile element that is mobile during functioning. Although the Office Action suggests that mounting plate 50 of Ali is a mobile element, Ali does not teach or suggest that mounting plate 50 is movable. In the absence of any indication to the contrary, a person skilled in the art would understand that mounting plate 50 is fixed to the engine and not movable. Consequently, the axis of pivot 40, which the Office Action indicated to be a mobile axis, is deemed to be a fixed axis. For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1 and the claims that depend therefrom are patentable over Ali.

It is believed that all objections and rejections in the application have been addressed and that the present application is in condition for allowance. A favorable reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims is solicited. If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this and concurrent replies to charge payment (or credit any overpayment) to Deposit Account No. 50-2298 for any additional required fees.

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Respectfully submitted,



Eric L. Lane
Reg. No. 56,399
Attorney for Applicant
LUCE, FORWARD, HAMILTON & SCRIPPS LLP
11988 El Camino Real, Suite 200
San Diego, California 92130
Tel.: (858) 720-6300
Fax : (858) 720-6306

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